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Extract of a Letter of Admiral *Evertzen*, written on Board the Ship the *Hollandia*, in *Cadiz* Road, the 28 of *March*.

THE 14 *instant we set sail with the Ships that were with us from the* Isle of Wight. *The* 17, *being about* 30 *Miles West and by South from* Ushant, *we discovered to the Northward nine Ships, who stood towards us. About* 9 *of the clock they were come so near us, that we perceived they were six French Men of War, mounted from* 86 *to* 90 *Guns, and three Fireships. We lay by, to put our selves in order, and to expect them; about noon they came in order down upon us, having the wind of us, the Sea going so high, that we could not open our lower Ports, and the Ships rowling in that manner, that we could not make any certain shot. We were then together five Men of War,* viz. *our Ship the* Hollandia, *that of the Sieur* de Ruyter, *those of the two Captains* Schey, *and that of Captain* van Zijl; *the Viceadmiral* Enno Doedes *being with the other four so far to Leeward, that he could not possibly come up with us. The Enemy kept about a Musquet shot from us. We were for some time engaged with four of them, and the Sieur* de Ruyter *with the two other, though without any other damage on either side, than the spoiling of some Masts and Sails. About two hours before Sun-set, the French kept as close to the wind as was possible for them, and so soon as it grew dark, they tacked, and stood from us. During the whole night, we let our Ships drive Eastward, and in the mean time made good our Rigging and Sails which had received damage, expecting to have renewed the Fight the next morning; but the Enemy then not appearing, and we not knowing where to look after them, continued our course. In our Ships have in all been killed in this action* 22 *men, and* 68 *wounded. The* 24 *instant arrived here Captain* Braekel *with four Men of War, having been engaged with a Corsair of* Sallé *mounted with* 18 *Guns, and* 180 *men, whom he sunk, having refused quarter. This day is likewise come in here Captain* Poort, *with the Ships under his command.*

Naples, March 29. We have had here nothing but rejoycing, ever since the news came of the French having abandoned *Messina*, and not only that City, but the other places they were possessed of in *Sicily*, and we have reason to rejoyce, considering the importance of it. Several Families who durst not relie upon the assurances of Pardon which was given them on the behalf of the King of *Spain*, have left their Countrey, and transported themselves, some to *France*, and others, to several parts of *Italy*, where, it's probable, they will have time enough to repent their having preferred the Dominion of a Foreign, before that of their own lawful Prince.

Legorn, April 5. About 200 persons, as well Gentlemen, as others, who have fled from *Messina*, upon the French abandoning that Isle, are arrived here, with their Families; their condition were to be lamented, was it not, that they are the cause of their own misfortunes. The last account we had from *Sicily*, was, that the Spanish Ministers endeavoured all they could by their mild and moderate proceedings to recover the people out of the fears which they were in of the ill treatment they should receive from those against whom they had shown so much animosity during the time they were under the French protection.

Venice, April 9. This week arrived here four Vessels from *Messina*, and in them above 300 persons (formerly Inhabitants of that City, who have fled from thence, not daring to trust themselves there) their Wives and Children; they are in a condition that moves compassion from all people; for their departure was so suddain they were forced to leave almost all they had behind them. On Saturday last the Cardinal *Altieri* arrived here from *Rome*.

Vienna April 10. The Emperor, having appointed a general Assembly of the States of *Hungary* at *Oedenburg*, purposes, as is said, to go thither in person, to give vigor to the matters that are to be proposed there; among other things, all possible endeavors will be used to put an end to the troubles of *Hungary*, which have now lasted so many years, to the destruction and impoverishment of that poor Country. During this Dyet the Imperial Court will be at *Neustadt*, which is hard by, and there, it's believed, the Marriage between the Archdutchess *Anne*, the Emperors Sisters, and the Prince of *Neuburg* will be Celebrated. Two days since arrived here a Courier, sent by the Duke of *Lorrain*, with an account, that having received the Order of the *Golden Fleece*, he was parted from *Inspruck* on his way to *Esslingen*, where he intended to hold a great Council of War, to adjust the matters necessary for the executing the designs of this Campagne. It is said here that his Highness will have even a better, a better Army this Summer under his command, than he had the last. Here is at this Court an Envoy from the Elector of *Bavaria*, who hath frequent Conferences with the Chancellor *Hocker*, and the other Ministers, what passes in them is kept very secret, so that we are wholly in the dark what he comes to Negotiate, whether it is to dispose the Emperor to a Peace, or to treat about his Masters coming into the War, there is most ground to believe the former.

Copenhagen, April 19. What was related by the Bores with so much confidence concerning an attack pretended to have been made by the Suedes upon *Christianstadt*, and the loss they should have sustained in it, proves altogether false and groundless; for the King hath received Letters from the Governor of *Christianstadt*, dated the 13 instant, in which he says, that to that day, the Suedes had not made the least attempt against the place, but that according to all the Advices he received, they were making preparations for the attacking it, and therefore prayed his Majesty would hasten his Army into the Field, as the onely means to save that important place. The

Sieur